



## Daycare Details

### DHS Update—Transportation & SIDS/SBS Trainings

January 1, 2011 was the 5 year mark of the statute requiring Child Passenger restraint training and 1 hour of SIDS/SBS training. The statute requires that these trainings be repeated every five years. This means that it is time for license holders who have remained licensed to obtain training again. In order to address noncompliance, DHS Family Systems recommends the following:

Step 1— Issue a correction order

Step 2— Recommend a fine

Step 3— for noncompliance of the Transportation Training— designate "no transporting of children under age 9" on the license

The next steps may include a conditional license, temporary immediate suspension, and possibly revocation.



Training is available through CCR&R, local agencies, food programs and on-line. Contact your licensor if you need assistance finding training opportunities.

This may also be a good time to review all of your training. License holders are required to complete 8 hours of training annually, 16 hours for a 2 year licensing period.

If you have questions about a training that you want to attend, call your licensor. They can tell you if the training will count towards licensing.

### Provider Question: When will I get my CCAP Payment?

Recently there has been an increase in provider calls regarding when they are going to be paid by CCAP. Remember that the county has 30 days to process a payment.

There are many factors that play into when a payment is

made including but not limited to: when the paperwork was received, when it was keyed in, Holidays, vacations, change in staff, etc.

**When should you call about a payment?** You should call if it has been over 30 days since you sent in

your billing forms. When you do call, please be patient. Sue works with over 750 providers. She will call you back as soon as she has a chance. You may need to wait up to 3 days for a return call.

Thank you for your patience.

#### Inside this issue:

CPSC	2
Car Seat Guidelines	2
All Choked Up	2
Crib Standards	3
Summer Activities	3
Gate Usage	4
Billing Forum	4

#### Google Map

In the near future, SLC is going to be adding additional information to the public website. Some of this information has to do with Family Day Care homes. A map of the providers that are currently licensed will be included in that information. This is being done to help parents find providers in their neighborhoods. It is also helpful for law enforcement.

## CPSC Launches New Product Safety Reporting Database

On Friday, March 11, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) launches an important new tool and resource for pediatricians and other health care providers as well as parents and families: SaferProducts.gov, an online database to report injuries or hazards posed by consumer products.

Established as part of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, the SaferProducts site allows physicians, parents, and others to report incidents involving consumer products that caused harm or could have caused harm. Examples of reportable incidents might include:

- A child's ingestion of a small part that broke off a toy
- An injury caused when a child fell out of a crib, cradle, bassinet, or bunk bed
- An infant's rash linked to a detergent or cleansing product meant for use with babies

As reports are collated, they will be made available online without identifying information so pediatricians and



[www.SaferProducts.gov](http://www.SaferProducts.gov)

family members can search the database for reports associated with specific products or classes of products. Names and other identifying information will not be made public. Please note that the database is meant only for reports of harms or potential safety risks, not for complaints about the effectiveness or utility of products.

Learn more at <http://SaferProducts.gov>. A short informational video about filing reports is online at <http://saferproducts.gov/videos/>

## New Car Seat Guidelines

American Academy of Pediatrics has issued new guidelines re: child car seats and what ages kids should graduate from one system to another. Primarily they are recommending 1) that toddlers up to the age of 2 be in rear facing car seats whereas common practice used to be to turn to forward facing at 1 year.

2) That older kids below the height of 4'9" be in booster seats, even past the past practice age of 8.

### Just A Bit Of Fun Fun with Numbers

This year we will experience four unusual dates...1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11, 11/11/11.

Now check this out: take the last 2 digits of the year you were born, plus the age you will be this year, and it will equal to 111.

If you spell all the numbers and try to find the letter "A", you will have to count to one thousand.

Did you know that:  $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$ .

2,520 can be divided by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 without having a fractional leftover.

## Getting Choked Up?

Consumer Reports has advised that choking deaths are alarmingly high these days. The article stated that a recent study showed that the average age of children who die from choking is 4.6 years. Toys geared to older children do not carry a warning label as they do for children under the age of three. Caregivers need to be watchful because children over age 3 are also at risk for

choking on toys.

Besides toys, food causes 42% of choking incidents. In 2003, 2.7 million children were treated for choking and nearly 2,000 died. Not only are lives lost, but children who were admitted to the hospital for procedures to remove the object cost an average of \$34,652 and required 6.4 days hospital stay.

Children continue to put objects in their mouths well beyond the age of three. Caregivers and parents need to avoid giving children known choking hazards such as hot dogs, grapes and carrots, or make sure the objects are cut into small pieces. Check the toys, stuffed animals, clothing and the floor regularly for choking items regardless of the age of the child.

## Crib Standards—More Information

Child care facilities, family child care homes, and places of public accommodation, such as hotels and motels, have until December 28, 2012, to ensure that the cribs used in their facilities meet the requirements of the CPSC's new crib standards.

After this date, places of public accommodation must use cribs meeting the new federal safety standards.

Note: Child care facilities, family child care homes, and places of public accommodation should not resell, donate or give away a crib that does not meet the new crib standards, such as trying to

resell the product through an online auction site or donating to a local thrift store. CPSC recommends disassembling the crib before discarding it.

Beginning on June 28, 2011, all cribs sold in the United States must meet the new federal requirements. After that date, it will be illegal to manufacture, sell, contract to sell or resell, lease, sublet, offer, provide for use, or otherwise place in the stream of commerce a crib that does not comply with the CPSC's new standards for full-size and non-full-size cribs. This includes manufacturers, retail stores, Internet retailers, resale

shops, auction sites and consumers.

Some compliant cribs may be available before the required date. However, you will not be able tell if the crib is compliant by looking at the crib. So, you may want to ask the retail store or the manufacturer whether the crib complies with 16 CFR 1219, the new federal standard for full-size cribs or with 16 CFR 1220, the new federal standard for non-full-size cribs.

**Remember all cribs must be compliant by December 28, 2012.**

## Why do I have to be licensed?

Sometimes we wonder why we have to do things. Especially when those things cost us money. As a daycare provider you may wonder why you have to be licensed.

There are many reasons to be licensed, but the simplest reason is that the State of Minnesota Requires it. In MN Statute 245A, it is the REQUIREMENT that individuals providing care for children NEED to be licensed.

It is a misdemeanor for an individual to provide child care without a license.

There are specific licensing exclusions to this Statute. Please see Statute 245A.03 Subd. 2 for the entire list.

What should you do about unlicensed homes? If you know of homes that are doing child care and you suspect that they are not licensed, please report it to the County the daycare resides in. If



unsure of the County, report it to your County.

Your most important job is keeping kids safe.



## The Guide to 2011—Summer Opportunities for Youth

Summer is fast approaching and you may be thinking about ways to keep your kids busy this summer.

Use the following links to access the 2011 Guide to Summer Opportunities for Youth for the Duluth area.

Duluth Public Schools @  
[www.duluth.k12.mn.us](http://www.duluth.k12.mn.us)

United Way of Duluth @  
[www.unitedwayduluth.org](http://www.unitedwayduluth.org)

City of Duluth Parks & Recreation @  
<http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/index.cfm>

Duluth News Tribune  
<http://sections.duluthnewstribune.com/pdf/goguide.pdf>

## Gate Your Stairs—Yes or No?

Stairways present a hazard for harm in any home—including a day care home

A gate is needed at the TOP of a staircase (one that is permanently affixed to the wall)

A gate is needed at the BOTTOM of a staircase; a pressurized gate would do (instead of attached)

The ages of children needing protection from a staircase by use of a gate or barrier is identified in the Day Care Standards as those between the ages of

6 to 18 months old

Be certain to have hand rails on all stairs negotiated by children on your premise/property

The open space between stair tread and railing needs to be enclosed to prevent falls or accidents

Each step requires a kick -plate or stair-riser to prevent the foot from sliding forward



**Stairs must be gated when children ages 6-18 months are in care**

Your local city/town may have a regulatory office which would provide you with the State Building Code for specifics on details for safety compliance

You are always invited to contact your licenser if you have specific questions on how to make your stairs safe for all ages

## BILLING FORUM

### Examples of those confusing billing scenarios.....

#### ABSENT DAYS & HOLIDAYS

There seems to be some confusion out there about ABSENT DAYS. Hope this helps.

1) "Betty Lou is scheduled to be at my daycare Monday thru Friday from 8am to 5pm. Sometimes, Betty Lou's grandma picks her up early (say anywhere from 11am to 3pm) to spend some time with her. Do I have to bill this as an absent day?"

No, you don't. If a child attends any part of the day, bill for the SCHEDULED # of hours as usual without designating it as an absent day.

2) "One of my parents (I'll call her 'Jane Doe') doesn't show up all the time. I know that she gets up to 25 absent days a year on the Child Care Assistance Program, but is there anything else I should know?"

Yes, a couple of things. If Jane doesn't show up for (7) days in a row, you need to notify the county (you can call me and I'll make sure the worker gets the infor-

mation). Also, you cannot bill for more than (10) absent days in a row. This could complicate your getting paid a full 2-week notice from the county. As an example, if Jane missed (3) days in a row and then called you to say she was no longer bringing her children to your day care, you would only be entitled to payment from the county for (7) days, not the customary (10).

-----  
1) "I am a new day care provider. I am putting together my policy and was wondering what the holidays are that I can get paid for from the county if I am closed? Also, how do I bill for them?"

In order to get paid for holidays when your day care is closed, you need to send a copy of your policy showing which holidays you are closed and expect payment AND you need to also charge your private pay families for these days. The holidays eligible for payment in St Louis County are: New Year's Day; Martin Luther King Day; President's Day; Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Veteran's Day; Thanksgiving Day; Friday

after Thanksgiving; and Christmas Day. If a holiday such as Christmas, New Years, Independence Day or Veteran's Day falls on a Saturday, the Friday before becomes the holiday. If it falls on a Sunday, the Monday following becomes the holiday. If a parent has a religious or cultural holiday they would like to switch with one of the above-mentioned holidays, the parent must request this in writing to their child care worker in advance. \*\*Remember also, holidays are the ONLY time you can bill the county when you are not available to provide care\*\*

You bill for holidays pretty much the same way as for absent days except you put an H in the box below the scheduled hours you are billing.

This will be an ongoing section in the news letter. In the meantime, if you're not sure how to fill out your billing form, give me a call. Sue- (218) 726-2174 or 1(800)450-9777 x2174.





www.cpsc.gov

# Child Care Providers

## Your Guide to New Crib Standards

Beginning **December 28, 2012**, any crib provided by child care facilities and family child care homes must meet new and improved federal safety standards. The new standards take effect for manufacturers, retailers, importers and distributors on **June 28, 2011**, addressing deadly hazards previously seen with traditional drop-side rails, requiring more durable hardware and parts and mandating more rigorous testing.

### What you should know...

- This is more than a drop side issue. Immobilizing your current crib will not make it compliant.
- You cannot determine compliance by looking at the product.
- The new standards apply to all full-size and non full-size cribs including wood, metal and stackable cribs.
- If you purchase a crib prior to the June 28, 2011 effective date and you are unsure it meets the new federal standard, CPSC recommends that you verify the crib meets the standard by asking for proof.
  - o Ask the manufacturer, retailer, importer or distributor to show a Certificate of Compliance. The document must:
    - Describe the product
    - Give name, full mailing address and telephone number for importer or domestic manufacturer
    - Identify the rule for which it complies (16 CFR 1219 or 1220)
    - Give name, full mailing address, email address and telephone number for the records keeper and location of testing lab
    - Give date and location of manufacture and testing
  - o The crib must also have a label attached with the date of manufacture

### What you should do...

- All child care facilities, family child care homes, and places of public accommodation:
  - o Must prepare to replace their current cribs with new, compliant cribs before December 28, 2012.
  - o Should not resell, donate or give away a crib that does not meet the new crib standards.
- Dispose of older, noncompliant cribs in a manner that the cribs cannot be reassembled and used.
- Noncompliant cribs should not be resold through online auction sites or donated to local thrift stores. CPSC recommends disassembling the crib before discarding it.



## I got a Correction Order—Now What?

Oh No, my licensor stopped to visit and has issued me a correction order. Now What? Am I going to lose my license? Am I a bad provider? Am I going to lose business because of this?

If you have been issued a correction order in the past, you probably recognized the thoughts expressed in the previous paragraph. So what does it mean to be issued a correction order?

A correction order is a written documentation of an area where your program is out of compliance with the Licensing Rule. It gives both the licensor and the license holder a record of areas in which a provider may need to improve.

If you are issued a correction order what should you do? The first thing that you should do is to come into compliance with the Rule. Once that

is completed, you will need to post the correction order where parents can see it for 2 years.

Correction orders do not mean:

1. You are a bad provider
2. You are going to lose your license
3. You are going to lose business

A correction order documents the steps that you have taken to come into compliance with the Rule.

## St. Louis County

PHONE:  
1-800-450-9777



## St. Louis County Licensors Contact Information

	Phone 1-800-450-9777 + Ext.	E-mail addresses
Duluth: Gladi Billeter	2175	<a href="mailto:billeterg@stlouiscountymn.gov">billeterg@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
Jean Taran	2176	<a href="mailto:taranj@stlouiscountymn.gov">taranj@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
Linda Kiesling	2159	<a href="mailto:kieslingl@stlouiscountymn.gov">kieslingl@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
Virginia: Helen Jamnick	7528	<a href="mailto:jamnickh@stlouiscountymn.gov">jamnickh@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
Naomi Ranisate	7538	<a href="mailto:ranisaten@stlouiscountymn.gov">ranisaten@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
Supervisor: Susan Sauls	2108	<a href="mailto:saulss@stlouiscountymn.gov">saulss@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>
CCAP Provider Issues:		
Sue Marsy	2174	
General Childcare Email Address:		<a href="mailto:childcare@stlouiscountymn.gov">childcare@stlouiscountymn.gov</a>